

The Krumbach Times

Fine Student Journalism from the Austrian Hogwarts

Will He Ever Know? Schloss Krumbach Attends a Ballet Coppélia.

by Anne Princesse, Grade 12

On the 7th of October, Grade 8 and Grade 12, went to the theater to watch one of the most fabulous ballets in European history. The ballet was an amazing performance that we got a chance to witness and enjoy.

The ballet, Coppélia, is a love story that has three main acts. The first act begins with a festival in a village and there is an announcement of a new bell. The town crier announces that when it arrives anyone who will be married they will gain special gifts. Two young lovers, Franz and Swanhilda, decide to be married. However, there is a girl on Dr Coppélius balcony with enormous beauty who has been catching Franz's attention and Swanhilda thinks that Franz does not love her anymore. Dr Coppélius runs into a group of boys and he loses his key. Swanhilda finds his key and she and her friends get an idea of going to Dr Coppélius house to find out more about the girl.

In the second act, Swanhilda and her friends find themselves in a room filled with people, but these are not people but are robots. Dr Coppélius comes back and gets angry at the girls and he brings them out of the house. However, Swanhilda is still hidden inside. Dr Coppélius spots Franz at the window and instead of kicking him out, he welcomes him because he needs a human sacrifice to bring to life Coppélia, who is the robot girl on the balcony. He needs the spirit of the Franz to do this.

He then drugs him in order to be asleep. He also needs to use a magic spell in order to transfer his spirit to Coppélia. While he does this, Swanhilda is changing her clothes to Coppélia and acts as if the doll has come to life. Dr Coppélius realizes it and he is very angry.

In the third act, Swanhilda and Franz are having their wedding feast when Dr Coppélius intervenes and demands money to repay the damage from the young couple. Coppélia suggests giving her dowry but Franz decides to pay him instead. In the meantime, the mayor comes with a bag of money and gives it to Dr Coppélius. The young couple is married and the whole village celebrates by dancing.



We enjoyed the ballet very much – we are very grateful to the Volksoper Wien for hosting such a fabulous performance.

In general, having opportunities like this visit to the Vienna Opera, provides us with a deep understanding and appreciation for the arts. Witnessing the dedication and talent of the ballet dance



Special School Guest: Meet the Former Governor of Colorado Bill Owens!

Our school had a unique honour of meeting and interviewing Governor Bill Owens, a 40th Governor of Colorado.

"The students here are very lucky, and it's a tribute to the family and the teachers who've made this happen".

Throughout your political career, you are known for pushing the largest stacks from the package in Colorado's history. Can you tell us more about how you accomplished these deeds and how they affected you?

I believe, that taxes should only be imposed for real government needs. Obviously, it's important to fund the government, but I also believe that people who work hard to earn their money should be able to keep more of their earnings, for their families and for their purposes. I'm in favor of the government having funding, but I also believe that whenever there is a choice, let the people who earned the money keep their money.

You've been credited for establishing innovative education accountability systems. Can you provide some insight into how this programme was developed and on the quality of the education?

I believe that parents should be given more power in education. I don't believe that teacher unions should decide what to do with education, because parents know their children best and they know what is best for their children. I support parental choice in education. I passed a bill that said that children in one district could go to school in a different district if there was space available. That meant that districts didn't have a monopoly, and thus competed over the quality of education. I also made homeschooling legal in Colorado, which meant that parents with certain standards could educate their children at home.



You are one of the most popular governors in Colorado history. What do you think attracted such a vast number of supporters?

YI won my first election by the narrowest margin in Colorado history, barely 6000 votes out of more than a million. And what I tried to do in my first four years, is to be the sort of governor that Colorado needed, and so we did cut taxes, we did give more power to the parents, we built infrastructure. After four years, when I went through reelection Colorado approved of what I have done and gave me that largest margin in Colorado history. So I'm very proud of the fact that I went from barely winning to winning large because that basically said Colorado agreed with what I was trying to do.

Having served a governor of Colorado for eight years can you reflect on what you are most proud of achieving and is there anything you would have done differently?

What I am most proud of, is that Colorado received a good governor for eight years and providing a good and effective government is all a politician can hope for. Now, what of my mistakes, I'm sure there were many. I tried to pass a water project that I didn't do a good job of explicitly explaining and it was defeated.

I, probably, was making mistakes every day. But the measure of a leader is whether the good things he or she does outweigh the bad. And I never did anything bad, I just made mistakes. There was never a time when people doubted the honesty of Colorado's government and that's something I am proud of.

What is your opinion on international schools and how would you describe our school?

Boarding schools are outstanding because of the way they bring people together: the young man from Pakistan and the young lady from Burundi. The fact that these students are getting education together being from all over the world. And the education they receive is probably top one among hundreds. There isn't an American public school that comes near to what you're providing. Speaking of how to describe your school, it is pretty impressive. This boarding school is frankly unbelievable. To be in a castle like this, with surroundings like this, with this level of teachers, with two, three four students per teacher. Edmund Burke, a British writer and whig, once said: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing" and doing nothing is definitely not the case of Schloss Krumbach.

Interviewer: Aleksandra, Grade 10



Why Go Mountain Biking?

By Grygorii, Grade 10

Mountain biking, an exhilarating outdoor pursuit, captivates the adventurous spirit within us, and one of the most beloved weekend activities which we have here at Schloss Krumbach. It permits riders to traverse diverse terrains, from dense forests to challenging trails, resembling a thrilling treasure hunt on two wheels.

In addition to the pure fun, mountain biking contributes significantly to physical fitness and overall health. The arduous climbs and treacherous descents offer a comprehensive full-body workout, affording a profound sense of vitality and well-being.



Moreover, mountain biking strengthens our connection with nature. It provides us with the opportunity to witness breathtaking landscapes, encounter indigenous wildlife, and breathe in the rejuvenating fresh air. It essentially encapsulates the essence of a mini adventure within each ride. And one cannot overestimate the beauty of the Bucklige Welt views, surrounding us!

Furthermore, the social aspect of mountain biking holds immense appeal. The amicable and welcoming community of fellow riders allows for the cultivation of new friendships and the sharing of experiences. Group rides and competitions further enhance the social dimension of this sport.

Mountain biking is an extraordinary endeavor for those who seek adventure and aspire to maintain their physical fitness. The sport offers unparalleled enjoyment, exceptional health benefits, and an intimate connection with nature. Embrace the call of the great outdoors, embark on the enthralling journey that mountain biking provides, and do not forget to equip yourself with necessary safety gear.

Helms on and let's go, Schloss Krumbach!

Many of you may ask what the purpose of a cooking club is, well the obvious answer to that is that we get to learn to cook but trust me there is so much more to that. The aroma of delicious dishes fills the air, as laughter and chatter echo off the walls. Welcome to the thriving club of cooking enthusiasts- The master chefs!

Something is Cooking at Schloss Krumbach

By Sonia, Grade 12



Our club was founded just over a month ago, this club has also become a haven for people who enjoy cooking and learning about different cultures. Our cooking club has become more than just a cooking club, it has become a family. In our club we aim to create a vibrant and heartwarming atmosphere where knowledge is shared and friendships are formed. Our cooking club can allow one to develop numerous skills such as, it allows you to enrich your diversity in other people's cultures especially because we are an international school with many nationalities.

Our cooking club allows us to foster creativity, skill development, and, above all, a strong sense of community. Our highly equipped kitchen facilitates us with the right resources in order for us and our community to be safe and healthy. Nestled in the heart of Schloss Krumbach International School, the cooking club also serves as a gathering place for individuals from all around the school who are passionate to learn about the art of cooking.

Every month, we eagerly explore new dishes and recipes. With each cooking experience comes a whirlwind of excitement as we explore new ingredients, techniques, and especially new flavors. Come taste our specialties on the weekend!

Special School Guest: Meet the CEO of Burlington Capital Lisa Y. Roskens!

Lisa Y. Roskens, who is the Chief Executive Officer of Burlington Capital, LLC, and a long-term friend of Schloss Krumbach International School, paid us a visit and, as always, inspired the young minds to achieve!

"Schloss Krumbach International School is the ultimate merger of passion, education and opportunities".

As the CEO of Burlington Capital, can you share some of the major challenges and triumphs you experienced while restructuring the organization to focus on real estate, agribusiness, and private equity?

Yes, you know it is very interesting! There are so many challenges and opportunities and I think that the important thing is to always be looking for where is the opportunity from the challenge. How can we get better from something that may be isn't working? And So I think a couple of things that come to mind for me as one of the biggest challenges was as we evolved the organization, finding the right people to run each piece of the business. And yes, to me it was very important even though we had very different pieces of our business while everyone was looking for an opportunity I didn't want to have silence.

Burlington Capital has managed assets totalling over \$7 billion. Can you walk us through some of the key strategies that led to such a high asset management rate?

Really what we have always our core primary thesis, no matter what set of industry we are in, is we are always focused on pursuing the capital our investor gives us. The second thing we like to try upon are opportunities with a current return so that they can click upon. It doesn't always work when you are doing your work in a margin market, you do not always have that ability but we are always looking to try again to give them a current return. We have always been focused on our investors. So what is a way? How can we make the right decisions for our investors?



We think very long term. We always think about: what do we do to sustain and maintain our relationship with our investors?

How have you managed to balance running your own horse farm with your executive duties at Burlington Capital?

Well you know when you love something you figure out how to make some time for it! Sometimes it means late nights or early mornings but really I fortunately have wonderful people running my farm day to day, I don't have to take care of everything. I don't think if that wasn't the case that I would be able to do it. What I have decided is that taking care of me is the only way I can take care of others, right? And I have to make sure that I am not too selfish about taking care of myself but I put my writing on my calendar like an appointment. Now sometimes it is very early in the morning, sometimes it is late at night, and sometimes I run home and do it over lunch but if I type it on the calendar, it's hard to miss, right?

How does your passion for equestrian pursuits influence your leadership style or philosophy in business?

You know that's a really interesting question. You know it's interesting and it actually even has influenced how I parented my children, because when you are working with horses you are working with an animal that does not speak english, that doesn't look at the world the way you look at the world. They view their world with their lenses and their biology. So for me it made me very understanding and open to how other people view their world. J

What is your opinion on international boarding schools? How would you describe our school?

Well, first of all I think it is a wonderful opportunity for students to interact with other students on an in-depth level. And also the way you can learn, it's so encompassing. You can pick up and go on a trip. You don't have to worry whether there is a math test, because everybody can cooperate so that you won't do two things. So I think that international boarding schools serve an incredibly valuable role for creating international leaders for the world. As far as Schloss, I just love this place. Well I don't know what it is. It's beautiful, magical, pretty, And the people in the building. The building is a building and it's the people in the building that bring it to life. The passion of everyone, you know from Ms. Oksana and Mr. Vladimir and the whole family. It's just amazing what they brought to this building. And so I couldn't say nice things about what's going on here.

Interviewer: Anne Princesse, Grade 12



Sunflowers and Seashells: A Visual Arts Workshop

By Saghar, Grade 10



Then we also had a seashore painting workshop. All of us created our own version of the sea waves with transitions from darker to lighter colors and we used several techniques to depict the foam (not only with brushes, but also dripping liquid paint, sponging, etc.). The seashells, brought to school by the art teacher especially for this class, everyone drew from nature with watercolors. We placed the most magnificent shells on the imaginary "sandy beach", and it turned out very picturesque! We even had to get up on a stepladder to capture the whole scope of the result.

Within the framework of the arts workshop series, SKIS students took part in a sunflower painting class, organized by a professional artist.

At the beginning of the lesson, we learnt about the most famous sunflowers in the fine arts and explored the intricacies and specificities of flower painting, how it differs from the styles of Modern and Hyperrealism. Then there was a lovely discussion on which of the 7 still-life paintings of sunflowers Vincent Van Gogh painted as a reflection of the world around and what was the result of his memories. Inspired, every student painted their own sunny flower on a dark background with acrylics. The paintings turned out to be very different, conveying the individual character of each young artist.



Choose Your Favourite Joke!

by Anne Princesse, Grade 12

Why was Cinderella so bad at soccer?
She kept running from the ball!

Why was 6 afraid of 7?
Because 7, 8, 9

Why is Peter Pan always running
Because he neverlands

What do you call a Freshman in sandals
Phillipe Floppe

Why can't you trust atoms?
Because they make up everything!

How Does Playing Classics On The Piano Develop Your Brain?

By Ms. Peterson-Bozova, Music Teacher

To some of our talented students, music is life, and breath, and passion. This is why during the school breaks and on the weekends the castle is filled with beautiful sounds of piano and guitar. Not only do we encourage playing musical instruments as a hobby, but also have special classes of both instrumental playing and music history to ignite students' interest in the field.

At Schloss Krumbach International School, piano practice is not only a popular pastime, but it is also recognized as a source of many amazing benefits for brain development, especially when it comes to playing classical music!

Playing the piano has been proven to enhance cognitive skills, improve memory, and boost creativity. When students sit down at the keys, their brain is stimulated in ways that help them concentrate better, problem-solve with ease, and even excel in other subjects like mathematics.



Classical music, in particular, offers a plethora of benefits. The intricate melodies and harmonies found in classical compositions engage human brains in a unique way, fostering emotional expression, and enhancing students' ability to interpret and understand complex musical patterns. Beyond the academic advantages, playing the piano is also an excellent stress-reliever. When students immerse themselves in the world of music, it becomes an escape from the daily worries, allowing them to relax, unwind, and find solace in the harmonious notes being created.

Remember, music is more than just a hobby; it's a lifelong companion. Let's embrace the power of music and continue to nurture our talents, one piano key at a time! Stay tuned for the Sounds of Music Christmas performance, where we show how the sounds of music and kind loving performance have the power to completely transform a human life.

An Insight into the Christmas Performance



As per our annual tradition, Schloss Krumbach International School is preparing a beautiful Christmas play, featuring dancing, singing and performing.

We look forward to welcoming friends and members of the school community at our castle on December 15th to share this wonderful experience of student-led art.



Special School Guest: Meet the Former CEO of Gemini Rosemont Ian Brownlow!

Ian Brownlow, Board Member, Senior Advisor and former CEO of Gemini Rosemont, visited Schloss Krumbach, and shared some interesting insights from his career and lifetime with our students.

How did you manage to ensure a smooth collaboration between the Chinese and American workers?

Even though Gemini–Rosemont is a company operation in the United States, the ownership is located in China, and one of my roles as a CEO is to make that work. I think that in every relationship, every business you must respect other ways, others ideas and so on. You have to listen to other people. It does not mean if you thought of something in one particular form, it is always like that. There are many ways. Also when you talk about a relationship you talk about trust.

Were there any changes or trends during your service as a CEO that impacted you already as a Board Member?

You know, Covid actually happened in the time when I was a CEO. It was when I was in the head office in Los Angeles and the government asked everyone to leave the office. Two of the years when I was a CEO nobody was in the office. It changed things dramatically, because we couldn't gather together. It was the time when Zoom gained popularity. Covid has changed the real estate as it was before, and changed the easy people see it today. It changed the understanding of what an office is.

Did you implement the system of hybrid workers, meaning working both online and offline?

Yes, we worked 4 days in and 1 day out of the office for everybody, maybe with one or two exceptions. I think technology is now going to play a much bigger role and not only in real estate.

You have to have a creative community regardless if you are in the office or at home.



You have to have a creative community regardless if you are in the office or at home.

Do you think technology is going to impact your job in the near future?

Mine specifically? I don't know about that! I think it's affecting everybody. Particularly now it's impacting over a number of industries. Artificial intelligence can become a huge use in the commercial industry. It has never been used before. Commercial real estate can come to be on The Cutting Edge of artificial intelligence.

What do you think about boarding schools and our school in particular?

I went to a boarding school at the age of six. I come from England but my parents were in Africa at the time so that's what they did back in the time they sent you back to England to boarding school. I think six is too early, but my parents are because it was the best way for me. I felt very close to my family even though I was very far away. I do think boarding school is a good thing, not at the age of six.

What do you think is the perfect age for a parent to send their child to a boarding school?

It is not a must of course but I think the best age for a parent to send their child to a boarding school is around 15–16 years old. Somewhere in high school. At first it's hard but with time it becomes less old and you just get used to it.

I also have prepared some Blitz questions for you. Answer as fast as possible and don't think.

Cats or Dogs?
Dogs

Paper books or audio books?
Paper

Teaching or learning?
Teaching

Documentary movies or fiction?
Do I have to choose one or the other?
Documentary then.

Natural or humanitarian sciences?
Humanitarian.

Interviewer: Grygorii, Grade 10



How Can Schools Prepare Students to Handle Exam Anxiety?

By Belamie, Grade 12

The answer is simple – through practice.

To be able to do exams well one needs to do exams often. Empirically it is incredibly helpful if the first time when students encounter exam anxiety and sensitivity to time pressure occurs during an ordinary and routine exam rather than during a life-changing and end-of-school one.

This gives students the opportunity to understand their weak and strong sides, figure out an exam strategy that works for them and – most crucially – to set this strategy to practice over and over again. This is precisely why for us at SKIS having many exams is a norm.

In general, there is a range of methods on how to do well on exams, and of course the applicability of each method varies depending on the student. However, there are some important general tips which universally useful:



Start with the questions you are sure about to build further confidence. You are in a better place mentally when you feel that you have already accomplished some tasks.

Keep an eye on the time and make a plan. It is better to do less questions thoroughly than to frantically jump from one to another, getting even more stressed.

Have some spare paper to give room for your thoughts. Sometimes trying tasks out on a draft helps handle anxiety and fosters the thought process. Plus your exam notes will look tidy (and it is also strategic to not lose points on an easy matter like this one).

I also highly recommend dancing waltz and teaching unruly 7th Graders as an anxiety relief strategy. It works, proved empirically. I wish you best of luck on your exams, whenever they are!



5 Fun Facts About Cooking

By Sonia, Grade 12

- Bananas are berries but strawberries aren't
- The Most Expensive Spice is Saffron
- The First Refrigerator Was Invented in 1834
- Broccoli contains more protein than steak
- The Microwave Was Invented by Accident



The Krumbach Times is a student-run newspaper headquartered at a 13th century Austrian Castle.

